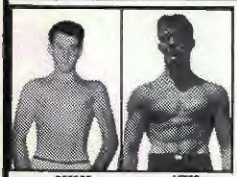
THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAGAZINE!
FANTASTIC FOUR
12¢ IND.
88 JULY
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Fantastic Four
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
A HOUSE THERE WAS!
FEATURING: THE SURPRISE SUPER-VILLAIN OF THE YEAR!

Tired of Being 'SKINNY'?

DRINK ON POUNDS OF WEIGHT FAST—THE FUN WAY!

GAINS OF UP TO A·POUND·A·DAY PROVEN BY THOUSANDS

IT'S DELICIOUS! IT'S WILD! The new taste-sensation "CRASH-WEIGHT GAINING PLAN" developed by Joe Weider, "Trainer of Champions", "Architect of Beauty" helps you drink on pounds... UP TO A POUND A DAY easily and enjoyably while you rest...relax...watch TV...sleep. Men, women and children... see measurable gains instantly and say goodbye to your skinny, undesirable string-bean body...NOW!

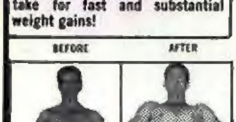


BEFORE AFTER

HERE'S LIVING PROOF IT WORKS—FAST

Used with amazing results by tens of thousands of men, women and children for more than 7 years! Now, you too can take this guaranteed way to build up your caloric intake for fast and substantial weight gains!

BEFORE AFTER



GAINS 18 LBS. IN 14 DAYS!

The "before" photo shows how Larry Chamiel looked without the added weight he needed so badly. The "after" photo shows Larry 14 days after he started the **Crash-Weight Plan** and gained 18 pounds. He writes: "What more could a guy ask for? All I did was add 4 glasses of Crash Weight Formula #7 to my regular meals, follow Joe Weider's Plan and I gained a tremendous 18 pounds in two weeks!"

SHOULDN'T THIS HAPPEN TO YOU?

GAINS 14 LBS. IN 14 DAYS!

James Parker of Ft. Worth, Texas writes: "It's Fantastic—I went from 158 to 172 pounds in 14 days. Gained 14 pounds in 14 days and added 2 inches to my chest. I'm more than satisfied!"

SHOULDN'T THIS HAPPEN TO YOU?

DO-IT-YOUR-SELF GAIN-A-POUND-A-DAY KIT!

This is a 1-day supply of **Crash-Weight**, chock full of weight-gaining nutrients that can smash the weight-gaining barrier!

You want to gain a pound a day? Half a pound a day? Maybe you just want to add a few pounds here and there? You want easily . . . enjoyably . . . without stuffing yourself and counting calories?

NOW YOU CAN

It's simply wild...AND IT WORKS!

You too can follow this amazing Crash-Weight Formula #7 Plan and drink on as much as a pound a day . . . Skinny people are undesirable . . . they look sickly. Say goodbye to your string-bean looks with this sensational new plan—NOW!

No more bloating yourself with rich, heavy foods to force-feed calories into your system. Drink 4 delicious glasses of natural-organic Crash-Weight Formula #7 daily in addition to your regular meals. Follow Crash Weight Plan as directed in the free booklet and you can drink on (in delicious, milk-shake tasting form) mixed with usual household food ingredients, up to 3500 calories along with your regular calorie intake. Then, take it easy . . . while you relax, snooze or watch TV . . . this calorie-packed weight-training drink and the Formula #7 Plan does all the work, piling on weight for you.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE COUPON

JOE WEIDER Dept. 83-09K4
531-32nd Street
Union City, N. J. 07087

Dear Joe:

I want to join the WEIGHT-GAINABLES. Enclosed find $.............. for your **Crash Weight Formula #7 Plan** which I have checked below. I understand your Money Back Guarantee applies only if I order my Plan through this coupon!

Check one of the Plans below:

☐ 7-Day Supply of Crash Weight #7 Plan .... $ 7.50
☐ 14-Day Supply of Crash Weight #7 Plan $14.98

Check flavor desired: ☐ Chocolate ☐ Vanilla

NAME .... AGE ....

ADDRESS ....

CITY .... STATE .... ZIP ....

(Please print clearly)

IT'S NEW! IT'S HERE! JOIN THE WEIGHT GAINABLES! DRINK ON POUNDS-FAST! SAFELY!

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LOOK! HE'S TRYING TO WAVE!
HE STILL REMEMBERS US, DARLING!
I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH I'D MISSED THE LITTLE IMP!
HOW'S MY LITTLE SWEET PATOOTIE??
AS WELL AS A GIRL CAN BE, BENJAMIN---
WHILE HER RIBS ARE BEING CRUSHED!
BY THE WAY, JOHNNY... WHAT DID THEY DECIDE TO NAME THE BABY?
GEE, I DON'T KNOW, CRYS!
BUT WE CAN'T KEEP CALLING HIM "HEY, YOU!"
I'VE BEEN TOO BUSY TO THINK UP A NAME FOR HIM, SUE, BUT---
IF WE PUT IT OFF MUCH LONGER, HE'LL BE OLD ENOUGH TO CHOOSE HIS OWN!
MAYBE I'M PREJUDICED, BUT I THINK JOHNNY WOULD BE A REAL COOL NAME!
GOWAN, HOTHEAD... HE NEEDS A MONIKER LIKE BENJAMIN!
...SOMETHIN' LOADED WITH A LOTTA DIGNITY 'N CLASS---LIKE ME!
2

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

COLLECT COINS.. THE HOBBY ROAD TO RICHES
"SURPRISE" $1 COIN PACKET
Thousands of old coins up to 100 years old GUARANTEED at least $1.00 current catalog value and packaged . . . ready to go! Many packets may contain coins worth much more!
These packets were put together from huge collections started many years ago, containing most types of coins. For only $1 you may find:
● 1909-S 1c ● 1914-D 1c ● 1950-D 5c
● 2 cent pieces ● 3 cent pieces ● Type coins
● Liberty 25c ● Barber 25c ● Gold & Foreign
Thousands packed, ready to mail 'grab-bag' style. Send your $1 today. You may find:
● GOLD COINS! ● RARE COINS! ● UNCIRCULATED! ● SILVER CROWNS!
SPECIAL!
Guaranteed $ 6 worth for only $ 5
Guaranteed $12 worth for only $10
HOBBY COIN CO. Dept. MC-1
Box 5177, Sherman Oaks, Cal. 91413
Rush me your SURPRISE packet. I enclose ($1) ($5) ($10) which is refundable if I am not completely satisfied:
Name
Address
City State Zip

MAGIC WORLD OF SURPRISES & MYSTERY
AMERICAN CIRCLE CORP., Dept 14-G, Box 535, Westbury, N.Y. 11590
SUPER SMOKE SCREEN
Lights easily. Creates a huge column of thick white smoke that rises and expands into a dense cloud. Used for Tricks, T.V., Movies and Stage stunts. Sensational surprising effect.
☐ No. 101 25¢ Each 5 for $1.00
KARATE COURSE AND CERTIFICATE. Don't be bullied! Protect yourself without weapons. Used by FBI, police, secret agents. With a simple twist of the wrist or a light jab, you can make someone twice your size and weight completely helpless. Requires barely any effort. It's brains not muscle that does it. Order now and receive a Free Karate Certificate with each course. Show it to your friends or hang it on the wall.
☐ No. 120 $1.98
SECRET AGENT SPY CAMERA. Easily concealed in the palm of your hand. Takes secret or surprise pictures as well as regular candid shots. Solid all metal construction. Precision ground lenses. Speed: 1/25th of a second and time exposure. Takes 10 pictures per roll.
☐ No. 109 Camera only $1.00
☐ No. 112 Hi Speed Film 6 rolls $1.00
ACH-CHOO
SNEEZING POWDER. Place a little of this powder on your hand, blow into the air, step back and watch the fun begin. Everyone in the room will begin to sneeze without knowing why. More fun than a barrel full of monkeys.
☐ No. 104 25¢ Each 5 for $1.00
SNOWSTORM TABLETS. Create a miniature snowstorm indoors. Will actually cover a whole room. Watch the fun start when you place one of these almost invisible tablets on the burning end of a cigarette. Watch them run for the snow shovel.
☐ No. 106 25¢ pkg. 5 pkg's $1.00
HYPNO-COIN Free With 25 LESSONS IN HYPNOTISM. Do you realize the power that hypnotism will give you? With the magic power of hypnosis you can hypnotize at a glance, make people obey your commands, strengthen your memory, develop a strong personality overcome bad habits. 25 lessons covers this and much much more. Send now and see for yourself how surprisingly simple hypnotism really is.
☐ No. 130 $1.00
BANG!
EXPLODING FOUNTAIN PEN. Looks like a regular fountain pen. But when they start to write... Look out! It goes off with a bang like a hand grenade! Can be used over and over. Harmless.
☐ No. 119 75¢ Each
SILENT DOG WHISTLE. Special supersonic features makes this whistle silent so that the human ear cannot hear it. But your dog can and will respond instantly over 1/2 mile away. Amaze everyone. With this whistle you can teach your dog tricks quickly and easily. All steel construction.
☐ No. 133 $1.00
AMERICAN CIRCLE CORP., Dept. 14-G, Box 535, Westbury, N.Y. 11590
Please send me:
Item No. How Many Price Ea. Total
Use other paper if necessary.
No c.o.d's.
Postage & Handling 15¢
For Catalog only 25¢
Total Enclosed
Name (print)
Address
City State Zip

OH NO! I--I CAN HEAR A SPEEDING MOTOR... RACING TOWARDS ME!!
HAVE TO JUMP... OUT OF THE WAY!
THAT GUY MUSTA BEEN NUTS!
HE ALMOST WALKED RIGHT INTO THE TRUCK!
HEY, MAC... WHAT GIVES? ARE YA OKAY?
I... DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED... TO ME!
IT'S ALL SO CRAZY... SO TOTALLY UNREAL!
I WAS WALKING MY DOG... OVER THERE... IN THE WOODS!
SUDDENLY... THERE WAS A DAZZLING LIGHT... WHICH SEEMED TO GO RIGHT THROUGH ME!
SECONDS LATER... I WAS BLIND!
MY SIGHT IS SLOWLY RETURNING NOW... BUT MY EYES STILL FEEL WEAK... THINGS STILL ARE HAZY!
OTHER PEOPLE AROUND HERE HAVE REPORTED THE SAME THING!
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?? WHAT CAN BE HAPPENING?
EVEN AS THAT TORMENTED QUESTION IS MOUTHED... THE ANSWER LIES DEEP WITHIN THE LONELY WOODS... WHERE A STRANGE, HALF-HIDDEN STRUCTURE GLOWS AND FLASHES WITH AN EERIE, FLICKERING LIGHT...
4

MINUTES LATER, USING THEIR EASILY-MANEUVERABLE FANTASTI-CAR TO BYPASS THE HEAVY TRAFFIC BELOW, THE FABULOUS F.F. SPEEDS TO THE SITE OF THE HOUSE WHICH SUE RICHARDS HAS SELECTED...
IT'S SOMEWHAT OFFBEAT, REED! I HOPE YOU'LL LIKE IT!
IF YOU LIKE IT, I'M SURE IT'S PERFECT, DEAR!
THE AREA IS SO ISOLATED THAT CELEBRITY HUNTERS AND FANS WILL JUST NEVER FIND US!
GOOD! AN NO INNOCENT NEIGHBORS MUST BE ENDANGERED BY ANY OF MY EXPERIMENTS!
THAT CAN'T BE THE HOUSE, JOHNNY!
IT...IT'S MOSTLY UNDERGROUND!
I MUST ADMIT, SUE...IT'S EVEN MORE UNUSUAL THAN I EXPECTED!
WHO COULD HAVE BUILT SUCH A THING ...AND WHY?
IT LOOKS LIKE A NUTTY OVERGROWN MUSHROOM!
IT MAY BE COZY, BUT IT SURE AIN'T THE WALDORF!
HOW DID YOU LEARN OF THIS PLACE, HONEY? WHO SHOWED IT TO YOU?
IT WAS JUST AN ORDINARY REAL ESTATE AGENT!
HE SAID IT'S BEEN HERE FOR MONTHS...NO ONE KNOWS WHO BUILT IT...OR WHY!
ONE THING'S FOR SURE...IT CERTAINLY CAN'T BE EXPENSIVE 'WAY OUT HERE!
LET'S GO IN, REED!
HE SAID WE COULD SEE IT ANY TIME!
5

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

NICK FURY, AGENT OF...
SHIELD
NEW! NEW! NEW! THE SUPER-PATRIOT!
TWO MORE TRIUMPHS FOR MARVEL...!
Now on SALE!
DOCTOR STRANGE
DR. STRANGE
IF A WORLD SHOULD DIE

IT'S BRAND NEW!! MARVEL'S SWINGIN' INFLATABLE PLASTIC PILLOWS!
The MERRY MARVEL MARCHING SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP KIT!
INTRODUCING THE LATEST, MOST ORIGINAL MARVEL MERCHANDISING MASTERPIECES EVER... THREE DIMENSIONAL SUPER-HERO PLASTIC PILLOWS THAT CAN HOLD MORE WEIGHT THAN YOU CAN SHAKE A FORBUSH AT! YOU CAN BANG 'EM! TOSS 'EM! EVEN LET 'EM HANG LOOSE ON THE WALL! ...EITHER SPIDER-MAN OR THOR, IN FULL COLOR YET!
ALL NEW MEMBERSHIP KIT: AN OFFICIAL RECORDING OF M.M.M.S. SONG... SWINGIN' STICKERS OF EIGHT MARVEL HEROES ...A NUTTY NEW NOTE PAD... A MARVEL MINI-BOOK... A MARVEL PENCIL... AN M.M.M.S. CERTIFICATE... YOUR OWN MEMBERSHIP CARD... ALL FOR ONLY $1.00
PRESENT MEMBERS: SEND US YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER AND WE'LL SEND YOU NEW KIT FOR 75¢!
$1.50 PLUS 15¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING
I'D LIKE ______ SPIDER-MAN PILLOWS.
I'D LIKE ______ THOR PILLOWS.
TOTAL
SEND TO: MARVEL COMICS GROUP, DEPT. P.P. 625 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. N.Y. 10022
NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE
ZIP
SEND NO CASH! CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY.
OKAY, MADMEN... HERE'S MY HARD-EARNED CASH, WHICH I'M SENDING YOU AT:
M.M.M.S. MARVEL COMICS GROUP DEPT A.J. 625 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. N.Y. 10022
NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE
ZIP
PLEASE: SEND NO CASH! CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY!
ADD 20¢ EXTRA FOR EACH CANADIAN AND EUROPEAN ORDER! ALLOW 3 to 4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY!

Don Bolander, M.A., University of Chicago; B.S., Northwestern University; Director of Career Institute; authority on adult education

Shamed by Your English?

You can soon speak and write like a college graduate if you let me help you for 15 minutes a day.

If you've ever been shamed by a mistake in English, maybe I can save you from years of disappointment.

I have met countless numbers of intelligent men and women who are being held back in their jobs and social lives, often without knowing it, because they cannot express themselves fully and easily.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

If people are not impressed by the way you speak and write—and if you're honest enough with yourself to admit it—you have already taken the first big step to success.

HERE'S WHAT TO DO

You can master good English *without going back to school.* Over the years I have helped thousands of men and women *right in their own homes.*

I can help you, too, if you will give 15 minutes a day to the C. I. Method. My answers to the following questions explain why you need a command of good English and how easily you can *do* something about getting ahead.

Question: *What is so important about my ability to speak and write?*

Answer: People judge you by the way you speak and write, both in business and in social life.

Question: *What does a "command of good English" mean?*

Answer: It means you can express yourself clearly and easily without fear of embarrassment or making mistakes.

Question: *Are there other advantages to be gained by acquiring a command of good English?*

Answer: Yes! Words are actually "tools of thought." The more you learn about words and how to use them to form and express your ideas, the better your *thinking* becomes.

Question: *Wouldn't I have to go back to school for a command of good English?*

Answer: No, not any more. You can gain the ability to speak and write like a college graduate right in your own home in only 15 minutes each day.

Question: *How do I know your method works?*

Answer: There are thousands of letters in my files, testimonials from people in all walks of life who have used the proved Career Institute Method to achieve amazing results. If you send in the coupon below, I will share some of these letters with you.

Question: *How can I find out more about the Career Institute Method?*

Answer: I will gladly mail a free 32-page booklet to you. Just mail Coupon or send a postcard to: Don Bolander, Dept. 208-42, 555 E. Lange St., Mundelein, Ill. 60060.

DON BOLANDER, Dept. 208-42, Career Institute,
555 E. Lange St., Mundelein, Illinois 60060

Please mail me a free copy of your 32-page booklet, 'How to Gain a Command of Good English."

Name __________

Street __________

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

THERE'S SOME SORT OF LONG ENTRANCE RAMP INSIDE... LEADING DOWNWARD!
I'VE...NEVER SEEN A HOUSE...OR ANY BUILDING LIKE THIS BEFORE!
ONE THING WE'LL ALL HAVE TO ADMIT... IT CERTAINLY IS DIFFERENT!
YEP! YOU WON'T FEEL AS THOUGH YOU'RE PART OF A DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, IN THIS PLACE!
BOY... IT SURE IS SOLID!
I'LL BET YOU COULD LAUGH OFF AN ATOMIC ATTACK IN HERE!
IT'S PROBABLY SOME KINDA DIZZY WORLD'S FAIR REJECT IF YA ASK ME!
OKAY... SO DON'T ASK ME!
WHOEVER BUILT IT, MADE IT LIKE A FORTRESS!
BUT, I WONDER WHY??
DON'T GO FLAMIN' ON, JUNIOR...TILL YA FIND OUT IF IT'S FIRE-PROOF!
7

HEY, THAT'S RIGHT!
THIS IS AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY TO REALLY TEST IT OUT!
FLAME ON!
DON'T LOOK SO WORRIED, MR. R.!
I'LL BE AS CAREFUL AS SMOKEY THE BEAR!
I'M NOT WORRIED, SON! I'M JUST GLAD YOU'RE WEARING THE SPECIAL JUMPSUIT I DESIGNED FOR YOU!
YA OUGHTTA DESIGN A BLASTED PLAYPEN FER THAT HIGH-FLYIN' FREAK!
JUST ONE SHORT BURST'LL TELL US WHAT WE WANT TO KNOW...!
HOW ABOUT THAT, REED?!!
THE OUTER WALLS ARE AS FIREPROOF AS YOUR OWN LAB!
LOOKS LIKE THIS PLACE HAS EVERYTHING!
EVERYTHING EXCEPT A REASON WHY!
THERE'S A LOT MORE TO THIS THAN APPEARS ON THE SURFACE!
8

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

EVERY TIME YOU TWIST THE TWISTER...

IT CAN PUT MONEY IN YOUR POCKET!

EARN \$50-\$100-\$200 A WEEK WITH AMERICA'S NEWEST AND WILDEST BODYBUILDING IDEA!

PROVED EFFECTIVE BY CHAMPION ATHLETES AND BODYBUILDERS!

The 007 POWER TWISTER!

IT'S A PROVEN MONEY-MAKER!

USE IT — SHOW IT — DEMONSTRATE IT — AND LINE YOUR POCKET WITH *INSTANT CASH!*

The **"007" POWER TWISTER** is the most sensational exerciser to come along in years. It builds powerful arms, chest and shoulders more quickly than you can imagine — it's the FUN muscle builder that has taken the country by storm! Needs no adjustment of any kind — No fuss — Use it just as it comes out of the package.

Be the first to get in on this big profit-maker NOW! Use it yourself to pack your body with muscle and power — let your family use it, too. Sold by the hundreds of thousands, it's the greatest single exerciser ever invented — and now the *greatest money-maker!*

CASH IN ON THE BIG PHYSICAL FITNESS BOOM NOW!

Never before have people of all ages become as physical-fitness conscious as they are today. They want to look better, feel better and stronger . . . have the vitality and youth that makes life worth living. The **"007" TWISTER** will help them. Just a few minutes with the **TWISTER** every day will improve your strength, health, shape and muscular development.

Here's your golden opportunity to get in on something really big! You take orders for the **TWISTER** in your spare time and make more money than you could possibly make with any other sales plan.

YOUR PROSPECTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

You don't have to go "digging" for prospects to sell the **TWISTER**—you'll find them everywhere because *everyone* wants to be physically fit. Your friends, relatives, local businessmen, schools, athletic clubs and all who know you will want the **TWISTER** for themselves. You show them how it easily packs inches of healthy muscle on arms, chest, shoulders and back.

START NOW AND GROW INTO A BIG MONEY BUSINESS OF YOUR OWN!

Just a couple of hours after school or work is all you need to start making good money selling the **TWISTER**. Then you can qualify for —

OUR FABULOUS "MILLION DOLLAR" PYRAMID PLAN WHICH MAY EVEN MAKE YOU RICH!

This amazing plan is designed so that you'll *double, triple* and *quadruple* your earnings in an unbelievably short time—

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT! The complete plan is given to you in detail in the *FREE sales course* you get with your **TWISTER** Demonstrator kit.

YOU STOCK NO MERCHANDISE — YOU GET YOUR CASH "RIGHT ON-THE-SPOT"!

You take the orders, collect your big cash commissions "on-the-spot", send us the orders along with the balance on each **TWISTER**. We ship the **TWISTERS** to you, you deliver them to your customers. *That's all there is to it!*

YOU ARE BACKED UP WITH NATIONAL ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY!

We've pre-sold the **TWISTER** for you through our full page ads in national magazines read by millions. It's up to you to get out there and get the orders that are waiting for you!

ORDER YOUR MONEY-MAKING TWISTER NOW & GET YOUR

Don't let someone else in your area beat you to this terrific money-making opportunity — send just \$9.95 for your **POWER TWISTER** demonstrator and get the **FREE** sales course plus the fabulous "Million Dollar" Pyramid Plan that can make you rich. Earn over \$200 a week with the fabulous plan— **start with just a \$9.95 investment!**

DO IT NOW!

MAIL TODAY!

WEIDER DISTRIBUTORS, Inc.
Product Sales Div., Dept. 63 =69AP
531 - 32nd Street
Union City, N. J. 07087

(West of the Rockies)
Weider Distributors, Inc.
Box 1667
Santa Monica, Calif. 90406

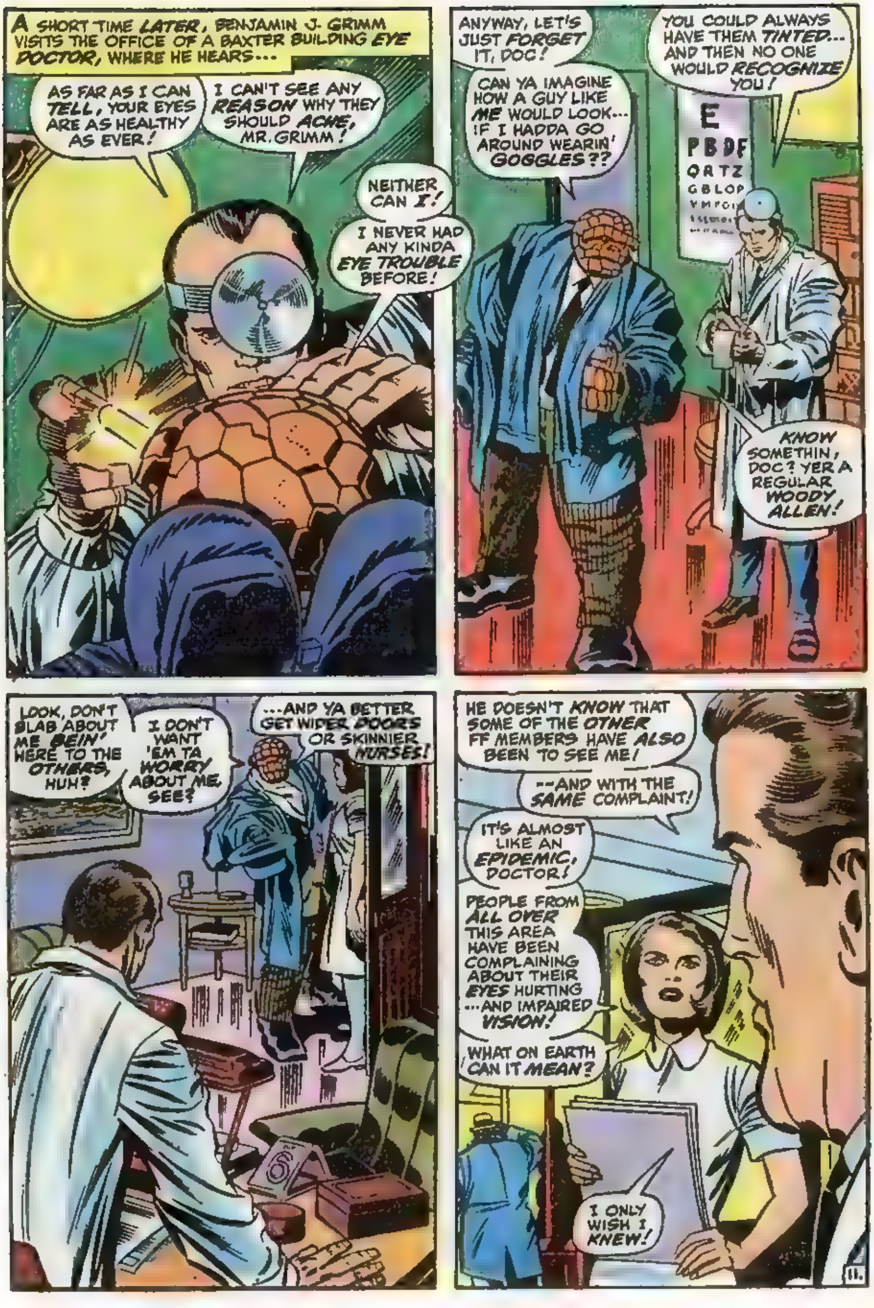
I want to make big money right away with the TWISTER and your fabulous Pyramid Plan. I'm enclosing \$10.95 (This includes all shipping charges). Send me a TWISTER and your free sales kit to start me on instant cash commissions.

Name ____________ Age ______

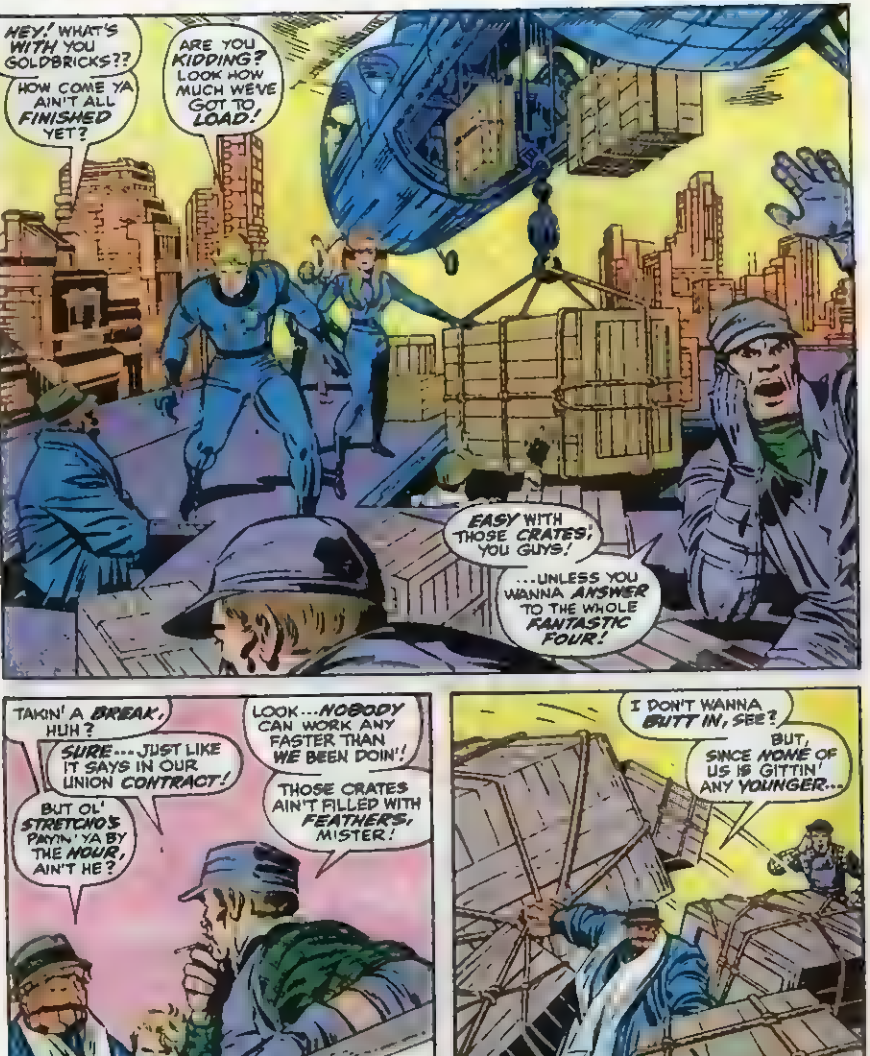
Address ____________

City ________ State ______ Zip ______

BUT, EVEN AS THEY SPEAK, A HIDDEN MAZE OF COMPLEX CIRCUITS OBSERVE, ANALYZE, AND RECORD OUR HEROES' EVERY ACTION...
CLICK!
CLAK!
FOR THE HOUSE ITSELF IS MERELY A GIGANTIC COMPUTER ...FROM WHICH A DELICATE RECORDING CYLINDER IS SUDDENLY HURTLED DOWN... DOWN...DOWN...
...UNTIL, AT LAST, IT REACHES THE END OF ITS PRE-ARRANGED DESTINATION...
INSTANTLY, IT DROPS FROM ITS PNEUMATIC CHUTE INTO A WAITING DE-SCRAMBLER WHICH AUTOMATICALLY TRANSLATES ITS URGENT, CODED MESSAGE...
THAK!
ZZZZZZ ZZZZZ
SO! THE FANTASTIC FOUR HAVE RETURNED TO THREATEN ME ONCE AGAIN!
BUT THIS TIME THEY SHALL GET FAR MORE THAN THEY HAVE BARGAINED FOR!
--EVALUATION:-- PRESENCE OF FANTASTIC FOUR NEW FACTOR IN OPERATION...AT PRESENT NO DANGER TO SUCCESS......
10.


A SHORT TIME LATER, BENJAMIN J. GRIMM VISITS THE OFFICE OF A BAXTER BUILDING EYE DOCTOR, WHERE HE HEARS...
AS FAR AS I CAN TELL, YOUR EYES ARE AS HEALTHY AS EVER!
I CAN'T SEE ANY REASON WHY THEY SHOULD ACHE, MR. GRIMM!
NEITHER CAN I!
I NEVER HAD ANY KINDA EYE TROUBLE BEFORE!
ANYWAY, LET'S JUST FORGET IT, DOC!
CAN YA IMAGINE HOW A GUY LIKE ME WOULD LOOK... IF I HADDA GO AROUND WEARIN' GOGGLES??
YOU COULD ALWAYS HAVE THEM TINTED... AND THEN NO ONE WOULD RECOGNIZE YOU!
KNOW SOMETHIN, DOC? YER A REGULAR WOODY ALLEN!
LOOK, DON'T BLAB ABOUT ME BEIN' HERE TO THE OTHERS, HUH?
I DON'T WANT 'EM TA WORRY ABOUT ME, SEE?
...AND YA BETTER GET WIDER DOORS OR SKINNIER NURSES!
HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT SOME OF THE OTHER FF MEMBERS HAVE ALSO BEEN TO SEE ME!
--AND WITH THE SAME COMPLAINT!
IT'S ALMOST LIKE AN EPIDEMIC, DOCTOR!
PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THIS AREA HAVE BEEN COMPLAINING ABOUT THEIR EYES HURTING ...AND IMPAIRED VISION!
WHAT ON EARTH CAN IT MEAN?
I ONLY WISH I KNEW!
11

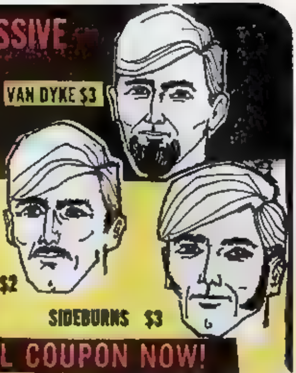
I NEVER THOUGHT THEY'D REALLY BUY THAT DUMP...
BUT SUSIE FINALLY TALKED STRETCHO INTO IT!
SO I GUESS WE'LL HAVE'TA GO 'N HELP 'EM MOVE!
KLIK!
THEY SURE ARE LUCKY THEY GOT ALICIA TO STAY AND MIND THE BABY!
IN FACT, WHERE ALICIA'S CONCERNED, ANYONE'S LUCKY WHO EVEN KNOWS 'ER!
THEY OUGHTTA BE ON THE ROOF BY NOW, LOADIN' REED'S JUNK INTA THE WHIRLY-BIRD!
FANTASTIC 4
RESIDENTIAL 31
RESEARCH 32
COMM 33
TECHNICAL 34
HANGARS 35
LANDING STRIP ROOF
WE'LL NEVER GIT RICH IN THE SUPER-HEROIN' BUSINESS...
--BUT AT LEAST WE GIT TA RIDE A PRIVATE ELEVATOR!
I WUZ RIGHT... THEY'RE ON THE ROOF NOW!
I MIGHT AS WELL GIT UP THERE THE EASY WAY!
THWKK!
AFTER ALL, A HOT-SHOT LIKE ME GOTTA SAVE HIS STRENGTH FER IMPORTANT STUFF!
12


HEY! WHAT'S WITH YOU GOLDBRICKS??
HOW COME YA AIN'T ALL FINISHED YET?
ARE YOU KIDDING? LOOK HOW MUCH WE'VE GOT TO LOAD!
EASY WITH THOSE CRATES, YOU GUYS!
...UNLESS YOU WANNA ANSWER TO THE WHOLE FANTASTIC FOUR!
TAKIN' A BREAK, HUH?
SURE... JUST LIKE IT SAYS IN OUR UNION CONTRACT!
BUT OL' STRETCHO'S PAYIN' YA BY THE HOUR, AIN'T HE?
LOOK... NOBODY CAN WORK ANY FASTER THAN WE BEEN DOIN'!
THOSE CRATES AIN'T FILLED WITH FEATHERS, MISTER!
AWW, YA WOULDN'T KID A FELLA, WOULDJA?
I DON'T WANNA BUTT IN, SEE?
BUT, SINCE NONE OF US IS GITTIN' ANY YOUNGER...
GIT OUTTA THE WAY AND LEMME SHOW YA HOW IT'S DONE!

OKAY... I PILED 'EM UP FOR YA...
NOW THEY'RE ALL YOURS!
C'MON! C'MON! HAUL 'EM IN THERE, WILLYA??
A GUY COULD GIT A CRAMP STANDIN' AROUND LIKE THIS!
MEANWHILE, AT THE MYSTERIOUS HOUSE ITSELF, MR. AND MRS. RICHARDS AWAIT THE DELIVERY OF THEIR CRATES...
OUR LONG-WEARING, CHEMICALLY-PROTECTED COSTUMES ARE SIMPLY WONDERFUL FOR HOUSEWORK, DARLING!
THAT'S NOT QUITE WHAT I DESIGNED THEM FOR...
BUT, AS LONG AS THEY SERVE THE PURPOSE..
I'LL HANG SOME PICTURES AS SOON AS YOU DRILL SOME HOLES IN THE WALL!
THIS SHOULDN'T TAKE TOO LONG, DEAR!
Y'KNOW, I WAS THINKING... PERHAPS WE COULD SUB-LEASE SOME OF OUR SPACE IN THE BAXTER BUILDING, SINCE WE NO LONGER NEED IT ALL!
THEN, WITH THE MONEY WE SAVE, WE COULD BUY...
SAY! SOMETHING'S WRONG! THE BIT WON'T CUT THRU!
SKREEEEEEEEEE
THE WALL'S VIBRATING... AS THOUGH I TRIPPED AN ALARM!!
STUN BOLTS! SHOOTING OUT FROM EVERY-WHERE!
14

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

ENJOY AN EXCITING, ROMANTIC, IMPRESSIVE LOOK ANYTIME!



HAVE THE LOOK MEN ENVY, AND WOMEN ADMIRE WHENEVER YOU CHOOSE!

Now at last you can have the experience of wearing sideburns, mustache, or Van Dyke that is so real looking your friends will think it is your very own!

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Rush the Following:	Please Send Order in Color Checked:	
☐ Mustache $2.	☐ Blonde	☐ Dark Brown
☐ Van Dyke $3.	☐ Black	☐ Grey - Silver
☐ Sideburns $3.	☐ Light Brown	☐ Dark Auburn
	☐ Medium Brown	☐ Light Auburn

☐ I enclose $6. send all 3 (I save $2.) cash, check or money order

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AN ACCIDENT?? BUT HOW? WHAT?
WHOEVER BUILT THE HOUSE...MUST HAVE BEEN VITALLY CONCERNED... WITH TOTAL SECURITY!
WHILE TRYING TO DRILL THOSE HOLES IN THE WALL, ITS POSSIBLE THAT I SET OFF SOME SORT OF BOOBY TRAPS!
BUT THERE'S NO HARM DONE, DEAR!
I'LL JUST BE MORE CAREFUL FROM NOW ON!
THE BELL JAR IS GONE---THERE'S NO SIGN OF IT NOW!
IT MUST HAVE BEEN AUTOMATICALLY RETRACTED BACK INTO THE CEILING!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'VE STUMBLED ONTO HERE---BUT I WON'T LEAVE UNTIL I GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT!
THAT CONSTANT HUMMING... IS GIVING ME A HEADACHE!
CAN'T LET SUE REMAIN HERE! IT ISN'T SAFE!
BUT I'LL HAVE TO FIND A GOOD EXCUSE...
REED! HERE COMES THE COPTER! THAT MEANS WE'LL FINALLY HAVE ALL THE FURNITURE AND ALL THE BRIC-A-BRAC WE'LL NEED!
IF ONLY I COULD TELL HOW THESE WALLS OPEN THE WAY THEY DO!
LOOK! IT'S JOHNNY AND CRYSTAL!
HI, SIS! HERE WE ARE WITH ALL THE GOODIES!
I NEVER EXPECTED YOU SO SOON!
BUT WHERE IS BENJAMIN?
HE STAYED BEHIND WITH ALICIA!
THAT WAY THEY CAN MIND THE BABY TOGETHER!
6

OKAY, MEN... LET THE CRATES DOWN EASY!
CAREFUL! LOWER THE LARGER ONES FIRST! THAT'S IT!
REED AND I CAN UNPACK THEM ONCE YOU'VE GONE!
I CAN'T WAIT TILL WE'RE ALL MOVED IN!
THEN, AFTER THE CRATES ARE ALL SAFELY ON THE GROUND...
WELL, SIS... LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE STUCK WITH US FOR DINNER!
IT'S A LITTLE LATE TO GO HITCH-HIKING BACK TO THE CITY!
I WOULDN'T THINK OF LETTING YOU LEAVE UNTIL YOU'VE EATEN YOUR VERY FIRST MEAL AT MAMA RICHARDS!!
IF IT'S AS GOOD AS ALL YOUR OTHER MEALS--
WE MAY NEVER LEAVE!
UNFORTUNATELY, CRYSTAL'S STATEMENT MAY BE TRUER THAN SHE KNOWS! FOR, AT THAT MOMENT...
THIS HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH!
I MUST TAKE NO CHANCE OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR INTERFERING WITH... THE PLAN!
DATA: CONTACT WITH REED RICHARDS... EFFORTS TO DAMAGE WALL HAVE BEEN REPULSED...
THEREFORE, I SHALL STEP INTO THE PLASTIC CHUTE AND ALLOW MYSELF TO BE HURTLED UPWARD..!
UPWARD ...TO THE SURFACE!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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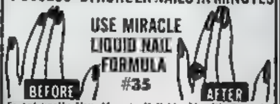

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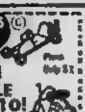

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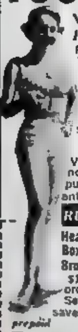

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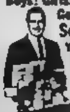

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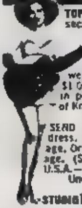

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EXILED TO THE DARK AND LIGHTLESS CAVERNS AT THE CENTER OF THE EARTH!
BUT, THOUGH I CANNOT CLEARLY SEE THESE WALLS ...MY RADAR STAFF CAN GUIDE ME PAST EVERY INCH OF THEM!
AND, AT ITS TOUCH, MY MIGHTY RAY MACHINE EMERGES...
HUMMING WITH THE FATEFUL ULTRA-SONIC SOUND THAT SPELLS DISASTER TO ITS VICTIMS!
AND NOW... I MAKE ITS EFFECT STRONGER... AND STRONGER... AND STRONGER...
...UNTIL THOSE WHO ARE MY ENEMIES... ARE DESTROYED!
AND, SPEAKING OF THOSE WHO ARE HIS ENEMIES...
MORE HOT BUNS, JOHNNY?
SAY, CRYS... I NEVER KNEW YOU WERE SO DOMESTIC!
EVERY GIRL CAN BE DOMESTIC, JOHNNY... WHEN IT MATTERS!
CARE-FUL, SON! THAT'S HOW YOUR SISTER HOOKED ME!
HMMM... MAYBE BEING HOOKED JUST ISN'T ALL THAT BAD!
19.

IF THAT HAPPENS TO BE A PROPOSAL, MR. STORM...??
KNOW SOMETHING, CRYS? I'VE HEARD LOTS OF WORSE SUGGESTIONS IN MY LIFE!
BUT THEN... SUDDENLY...
MY EYES! I CAN'T SEE!
SIS!!
SOMETHING'S HAPPENED... TO SUE!
SUE! WHAT IS IT??
THAT NEVER-ENDING HUM... IT'S GETTING LOUDER... LOUDER!!
AND NOW... IT'S GETTING HARD FOR ME TO SEE, TOO!
EVERYTHING IS GETTING BLURRED... HAZY...!
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO US??
REED! JOHNNY! CRYSTAL!! WHERE ARE YOU ALL?
RIGHT HERE, HONEY! GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF!
WHATEVER IT IS ...IT'S HAPPENING TO ALL OF US!
WE'RE ALL LOSING OUR SIGHT!
SOMETHING IS MAKING EACH OF US... BLIND!!
THE SOMETHING YOU REFER TO, MY HELPLESS FRIEND...
...IS A BRILLIANTLY DIABOLICAL RAY MACHINE!
20.
IT WAS CREATED FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF BRINGING ALL OF EARTH TO ITS STUMBLING KNEES!
AND NOW I GREET YOU, AS A GOOD HOST SHOULD!
FOR IT IS I, THE MOLE MAN, WHO AM TRULY MASTER OF THIS HOUSE!!
NEXT
THEY WALK IN DARKNESS!

A SAGACIOUS SMATTERING OF SPACE-WASTING SMALL-TALK!

ITEM! Not only has SMILEY been lecturing like mad on various cavortin' campuses, but now a couple of our super-stars themselves are the subjects of a "free university" class at the University of Santa Clara in California! Team-taught by John Cardoza and Mike Friedrich, the course is entitled "The Development of Personality in Spider-Man and Thor", with classes beginning the end of March. (—For those of you who are panting to partake of the newest scholastic sensation.) Naturally, we're as pleased as punch — and breathlessly waiting for the next seminar to begin in "Contemporary Forbushism"!

ITEM! How about Our Pal SAL BUSCEMA who's been inimitably inking his big brother JOHN BUSCEMA's artwork these past few months? Not only is he a whiz of an inker, but we just saw some sample pages of his original illustrations — and as soon as he rents himself a pencil or two, it looks as though Big John is gonna have more competition than he bargained for! Although B. J. probably isn't worrying all that much — he's too busy teaching the rest of his family to draw!

ITEM! Speaking of the Buscema brood, didja know that the Silver Surfer is unquestionably the hit of the year? Starting with the very first ish, it's hit the top of the best seller lists and it looks like it's there to stay. All of that must prove something — like, for instance, it's really a cinch to turn out a great comic magazine — all you need are sensational stories, fantastic artwork, superb characterization and socko plots . . . not to mention the most daringly dramatic concept in years! See? It's a breeze! Anyone can do it!

ITEM! Leave us shed a tear or two for Jazzy JOHNNY ROMITA. He's one of the few light-hearted luminaries who spends more time drawing here in the Bullpen than at home . . . so, every time we need a rush cover, a fast art correction, or some help for a less-experienced pencil-pusher, we turn to ol' Ring-A-Ding. Then, after loading him down with all those extra chores, we berate him for being late with his Spidey deadline! Now do you see why he relates to the Web-Spinner and all his hang-ups?

ITEM! It suddenly occurred to us to take a totally useless survey of how many of our Bullpen bigwigs are sporting beards these days. When we got thru counting we realized that almost a cool ten percent are fuzz-faces! Wanna know who? We thought you'd never ask! So now, before they can rush to a razor, here they are . . . Smilin' STAN LEE, Rascally ROY THOMAS, Jumbo JOHN VERPOORTEN, JIM (Madman) MOONEY, Awesome ARNIE DRAKE, Nefarious NEAL ADAMS, and Stalwart STAN G! Groovy GARY FRIEDRICH and Jaunty JIM STERANKO used to sport some facial shrubbery themselves, but they're now almost aggressively clean shaven. Think they're trying to tell us something?

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

SPIDER-MAN #74: The secret you've been waiting for! The mind-staggering truth about the astonishing ancient tablet! And this time — even Spidey may be too late!

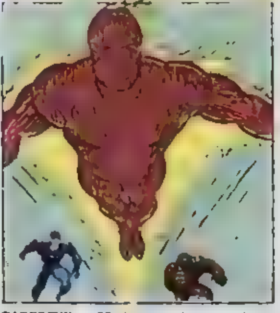
AVENGERS #65: A duel to the death — between Goliath and the sinister, swashbuckling SWORDSMAN! But first, our fighting-mad giant has to wade thru the Avengers themselves! A blast!

X-MEN #57: "The SENTINELS Live!" — and with that horror-struck cry, Marvel ushers in an era of new thrills, new greatness — in the saga of the most unusual fighting team of all!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Over the past months, many readers have written to complain about not being given advance notice when any Marvel madmen are to be interviewed on radio or TV — and hence having to miss the great event. This seems as good a time as any to explain that it's virtually impossible to clue you in in time because we ourselves receive only a few days' notice before any such appearances — and, by that time, the mags in which such notices should appear are already printed, and possibly even on sale. (You may remember our telling you in the past that our little masterworks are sent to the printer months before they appear on the newsstands.) But, be of good faith, one and all. If ever we figure out how to bridge the seemingly insurmountable time-lapse gap, we'll make sure that you have the same chance to be bored with our oratory as the rest of the Bullpen! Till then — Vale Atque Ave, y'all!

Smiley



DAREDEVIL #53: You've clamored for it — so here it is! The origin of our crimson crusader — retold by Stan and Gene! *Plus* — DD makes the most fateful decision of his entire life!

MIGHTY THOR #165: The God of Thunder has battled many foes — but none as menacingly, mysteriously, or supernaturally strange as the super-powered being known only as . . . HIM!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #115: The RED SKULL strikes! Cap is his prisoner! All of earth is in danger! And we haven't even mentioned the deadliest threat of all — but prepare for the shock of your life!

INCREDIBLE HULK #117: It's only fair! Ol' Green Skin has beaten the murderous LEADER in the past . . . so now, the tables are turned! But, the Leader wants more! He wants — World's End!

IRON MAN #15: What could be worse for ol' Shell-Head than facing the unconquerable UNICORN again? Why, having ol' Unie team up with still another master menace, of course — need we say more?

SUB-MARINER #15: Namor returns to the surface world — an old friend becomes a dread, unrelenting foe — and just to make things worse, up pops DRAGON MAN! It's action all the way!

SHIELD #13: A nation writhes in the merciless grasp of . . . the SUPER-PATRIOT! And Nick Fury is helpless to strike back — because he's been branded a traitor! Don't miss it!

DR. STRANGE #181: Our magical mentor is defeated in mystic battle — not by the harrowing hordes of NIGHTMARE — but by the awesome power of his own cloak and amulet! A must!

SGT. FURY #67: The stogie-smokin' sarge goes after turncoat Eric Koenig — "With a Little Help from My Friends" — with Bull McGiveney thrown in for good measure! Hooo-boy!

MARVEL TALES #21: Thor — the Human Torch — and Spidey makes three! And, in case you hadn't guessed — we're throwing a sinister super-baddie or two at you, as well! Bargain days are here again!

MILLIE THE MODEL #172 and CHILI #3: We still don't know who's buying these two madcap mags — but someone must be doing it, 'cause they sell out month after month — and Stan can't afford THAT many!

AND STILL ON SALE.

SILVER SURFER #6: Introducing — the OVERLORD! A new super-menace, the like of whom neither you, nor the Surfer, has ever seen before! Filled with suspense!

NOT BRAND ECHH #13: The SIMPLE SURFER soars again — DR. DERANGED scores again — while feeble FORBUSH MAN snores again! The biggest smash yet!

CAPTAIN MARVEL #14: The ever-invincible IRON MAN! The ever-pernicious PUPPET MASTER! And — Mar-Vell returns to the Kree Galaxy at last! A landmark ish!

CAPT. SAVAGE #14: You asked for it — you demanded it — and now you've got it! "Savage's First Mission" — exploding with blockbuster force! Get it — that's an order!

COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #21: No matter how you slice it — the F.F., IRON MAN, and DR. STRANGE all in one giant ish has gotta be the biggest bargain around! Enjoy!

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN #5: If you dig frontier action, this one's in your bag! THE RAWHIDE KID — TWO-GUN KID — and KID COLT, OUTLAW! A larrupin' lineup of western greats!

RAWHIDE KID #70: We call this one "Night of the Betrayers" — and if that title doesn't tell you it's action all the way — forget it! A new high in range-ridin' thrills!

MAD ABOUT MILLIE #2: Don't ask us to explain why, but it seems that the whole whacky world just can't get enough of madcap Millie! And we're not complainin'!

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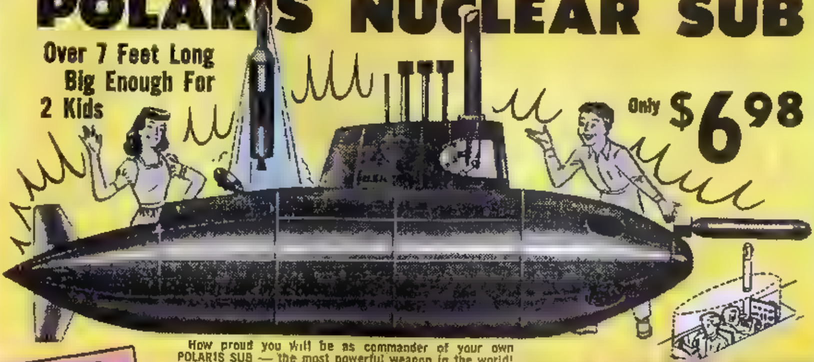

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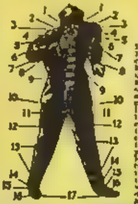

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Fantastic Four Fan Page

Send letters to: LEE and KIRBY
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP
SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV.
NEW YORK 10022 N. Y.

Dear Stan and Jack,

I have the logical answer to Reed and Sue Richard's baby's power problem. This child will grow up to be a one man Fantastic Four team. Here's why.

All four members of the FF were exposed to the same cosmic rays. Right? Yet they all developed different abilities. Correct? This is because only one mutation that the rays could bestow was dominant in each member, due to the chromosome structures in their cells. What I'm getting at is that each member of the FF can use only one ability while the rest lie dormant in his body. Example: Mr. Fantastic can stretch his body like elastic, but the Thing's strength, the Torch's flame, and Sue's invisibility are all inactive within his body. The same is true of Ben, Johnny, and Sue. The new child of Reed and Sue also possesses these powers.

The dangerous blood condition described in the FANTASTIC FOUR SPECIAL #6 was each of these abilities fighting for domination over the others. When Reed saved Sue, it reduced all of the abilities to normal. Now they will mature together with the child. He'll be sort of like a human Super-Skrull good-guy.

Get it?
You don't?
Well, I tried.

Geoffrey Kubilus, 1017 West Shelley Road
North Bellmore, N. Y.

And we appreciate your effort, friend. Actually, your explanation and prognosis may turn out to be the correct one as the future unveils its secrets — but, for the present, we'll just have to answer "no comment" and wait for Reed and Sue's child to do that "growing up" you mentioned in your first paragraph. Okay?

Dear Stan and Jack,

I'm certainly glad to see that Doctor Doom is finally going to be featured in a magazine of his own (in addition to appearing in FANTASTIC FOUR.) Despite what Leonard Upton has to say about Doom in the letters section of FF#83, the character's uniqueness makes him a natural for a continuing series.

Consider this: Doctor Doom is probably the single most powerful human in the whole Marvel Mythology. Although Reed Richards is slightly more intelligent than Doom, he does not match Doom's determination, persistence or audacity. Although the Hulk, Thor, and the Thing are physically more mighty, Doom can humble them by mental prowess. And Doom's personality is in sharp contrast to those of your other characters (who seem to be motivated by either the simple desire to do good or the craving to do evil). Doom doesn't care about good or evil — they're beneath him — and that's why I find the man so fascinating.

Now that you've created a variety of extra-terrestrial villains, Doctor Doom, in his role of *Most Powerful Single Human*, would be the strongest champion that Earth by itself could pit against them. Doom would stand a chance against the Kree and Galactus, and it would be in his interest to attempt to do so. After all, Doom regards the Earth as his personal possession, and Doom is a human too. If Galactus ever eats Earth, Doctor Doom will be eaten with it. Thus Galactus, for one, and Doom are natural enemies.

I applaud your courage at being the first to give a villain a starring role.

SP4 John K. Kuske RA 68015626,
HHD 96th MP Battalion
APO San Francisco, Calif. 96331

And we're sorry that it had to be just a trial, one-shot appearance in MARVEL SUPER-HEROES instead of a mag of his own right away — especially since we share much the same viewpoint on the matter of Dr. Doom that you do.

So now all we can do is sit back and wait for the letters to pour in with regards to MSH #20 — and hope that they warrant giving our lovable Latverian a series all his own. If they do, it will probably be the most difficult book to write and draw that Marvel has yet attempted — but if it were to succeed, it would also be one of the most rewarding!

Here's hopin', pal!

Dear Stan and Jack,

I just had to let you know how very good the FF is at the very present. Please don't make Reed and Sue's new baby son grow like a weed. I mean, he's a newborn baby — so don't let him talk a blue streak 2 or 3 issues later, being about 3 years old. Don't make him grow too fast, but let the readers enjoy watching him grow. Let him have his own individual powers and intellect. Have humorous scenes with Uncle Ben & Johnny cast as babysitters when things are quiet(?). Finally, keep up the good work!!

Linda L. Johnson, Highway 996, Box 177
New Orleans, La. 70131

Will do, Linda, as soon as we're sure just what constitutes our "good work" and our "bad work".

As for the matter of letting our bouncing baby boy grow too quickly, don't worry. We recall all too vividly the case when one of our competitors had a child be born and become a giant-sized super-menace all in the space of one uninspired issue — and, whatever monumental errors we make — we hereby resolve that *that* will not be one of them!

As Thor would say: "So be it!"

Dear Stan and Jack,

Your fabulous *Marvel* Comics have even reached the far ends of this globe of ours. We simply adore FF, SPIDER-MAN, and DD. In fact, we can't wait till the next issues are available. FF and SPIDER-MAN are our favorites; they're spiff!

Something that just wants to make us cry large tears of regret is the amount of boo-boos in your magazines. For instance, FF #80, page 18, panel 2 has a red Indian with full headdress driving the jeep with Wingfoot and his Grandpa, while in panel 3 the same guy has lost all his feathers save one. Wow! What a change in status he has undergone!

Before we forget, we'd like to remind you of our no-prize. Kindly send it as quickly as possible, before you're bankrupt. If this isn't done, you'd better watch out, for a comic group will pop up here that will "Doom" (if you'll excuse the pun) your junky (ulp . . . uh . . . sorry) gorgeous magazines.

To conclude our sinister letter, we'd like to congratulate Daddy Stretchlegs on his newborn son. *May Marvel Comics* stay for years to come!

Ullrich and Gisela Haydam, 17 Fulton St.
Vanderbylpark, South Africa

KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

R.F.O. (Real Frantic One)—A buyer of at least 3 Marvel mags a month.

T.T.B. (Titanic True Believer) — A divinely-inspired 'No-Prize' winner.

Q.N.S. (Quite 'Nuff Sayer) — A fortunate frantic one who's had a letter printed.

K.O.F. (Keeper Of the Flame) — One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's rollickin' ranks.

P.M.M. (Permanent Marvelite Maximus) —Anyone possessing all four of the other titles.

F.F.F. (Fearless Front-Facer) — An honorary title bestowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty.

Dear Stan and Jack,

Every Marvelite around right now, is talking about the FF's new bundle of joy, discussing genetics, mutations, and generally getting into a Forbush-type muddle over the whole thing. I offer a solution. Any student of elementary genetics knows Mendel's three laws of heredity, and is fairly well acquainted with mutations.

I will explain: If Reed and Sue's conditions are that of somatic (bodily) mutation, the baby will be born perfectly normal. However, if their mutations are gametic (genetic, as often happens in radiation exposure), there are a number of various traits the offspring could have. To wit: if you let m_1 represent Sue's mutant invisibility, and m_2 represent Reed's, we can set up a Punnet square as follows: N=normal (always dominant above mutation), m_1 and m_2=mutations. If you cross a Nm_2 (Reed) with a Nm_1 (Sue) you can have several possibilities. 1) NN (completely normal child); 2) Nm_1 (recessive mutant with invisibility power); 3) Nm_2 (recessive mutant with elasticity power); 4) m_1m_2 (totally recessive with both powers complementing each other, and thereby increasing each other); 5) mutant with completely different powers than either of the parents (highly improbable).

This leads to interesting plot developments. Suppose at the age of about 18, Keith Richards (my nomination for a name) rebels and turns against FF with powers granted under condition 4 above. He could definitely beat Sue and Reed, and probably the others too. What kind of chance would the FF have against an invisible foe that has spent 18 years studying their personalities and methods of fighting? Interesting, Huh? I hope I've cleared up the baby controversy, and given Marveldom some clue as to what to expect. 'Nuff said? No, not quite . . . sic semper Marvel!

Carter Scholz, 3 Somerset Rd.
Tenafly, N. J. 07670

This is just what your slightly sadistic Bullpen likes, Carter — to get two equally well-informed sources on each side of a question which perplexes our overworked brains, and then let them battle it out — with us (and therefore Marveldom Assembled) as the winners. So we'll let you and Geoffrey Kubilus have a go at each other for a while, and then we'll announce the winner at some indefinite date by revealing (within the pages of the F.F. mag itself) what powers if any Mr. Fantastic Jr. will have.

When the bell rings, come out slugging (verbally, that is) — and may the best Marvelite win!

Dear Stan and the Bullpen Gang in general,

It seems to me that there is something wrong with the FANTASTIC FOUR as of late. This is a matter that occurred to me some time ago, and I've thought a great deal about it. For a while I couldn't pin-point just exactly what was wrong, and then it occurred to me. The FF hasn't worked as a team since issue #72. Now, I realize that Sue was pregnant, and that after having the baby she needed time to recuperate. But now, ample time having elapsed for recuperation, you seem to be making no moves toward bringing her back into the story line and in fact, she has hardly made an appearance since the FF SPECIAL. Instead, you seem quite content with having Sue replaced with Crystal. I hope you rectify this soon, because while I personally am no great fan of the Invisible Girl, something seems to be lacking without her.

Another area wherein the FF is faltering is the villain department. This magazine needs interesting villains; without them you're dead. I hate to say this, but your villains have more personality than your heroes. Usually. Unfortunately, in this past year you have delivered some real lemons. Galactus is a quality character, one of your best. But he's just too powerful for the FF, and four issues of him hurling cosmic bolts is a little much. But, as I say, Galactus is quality and so he isn't too hard to take.

Regretfully, the same thing cannot be said of Psycho-Man. Two issues of him was torture. The Wizard popping up in #78 was a pleasant surprise, but he was followed by an idiot android, and the android was followed by Tomazooma, the worst Marvel creation of all time. After that we had another glimpse of the Wizard, and then two issues of the Inhumans. The Inhumans story was odd, for the FF seemed strangely unnecessary and intruding in someone else's strip. If you insist upon using the Inhumans, I suggest that you don't use all of them at once (what with them and the FF it gets kinda crowded), and even more important, introduce some new Inhumans. Now, the point of this whole paragraph is that the FF needs either a) new human villains, or b) old villains such as Diablo, the Frightful Four, Sub-Mariner, the Mole Man, the Super-Skrull, and most of all, Doctor Doom. Now, about Doom:

What's this business about putting the Doc in his own strip? If he gets his own strip you'll have to do one of two things, either reform him (which would be totally illogical, since Doom is utterly incorrigible) or have him fight other villains, which would be pointless. Besides, if you featured him regularly, his obnoxious personality would become overworked, and you would kill comicdom's villain.

Well, since that's about it, I'll stop. I think I've already done my part to fatten your optometrists' wallets.

Tom Steinke, 87 Udlaia Court
West Islip, N. Y.

No doubt, Tom.

We'll have to go on record as agreeing with one of your major points and disagreeing with the other. It's probably true that we got a wee bit carried away in recent issues with our thousand-and-one android menaces — though we tried to make them different enough to stand on their own two (or four) feet.

However, with regards to the matter of Dr. Doom in his own strip, we'll have to demur. While we wouldn't dream of changing Doc's basic personality, we still feel that he would be at least as versatile as our super-stars. After all, he could fight villains in many battles which would be far from pointless (see SP/4 John Kusske's letter, elsewhere in this section); he could battle other heroes besides the Fantastic Four (and not always the ones who have their own mags, either); and we could also make up new characters, both good and bad, for him to face.

But, this is all kind'a academic for now. Maybe next year by this time, you'll be writing us to tell us that "you told us so" — or by then, you might speed us a telegram to inform us that "Marvel wins again"! The future lies ahead, Mr. S — and we'll just have to wait for it together!

NEXT THE MYSTERY OF... THE MOLE MAN!

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So if you love to sketch or dabble in paints—and have often wondered if you "have what it takes" to become a well-paid commercial artist or sparetime professional painter—why not seize this opportunity to find out? All you need is a pencil and a half-hour of your time. With your special interest, it will be one of the most intriguing and enjoyable half-hours you ever spent.

What the Talent Test covers

First, you will be shown ten pairs of simple designs and asked to pick the one in each pair that has "a feeling of rightness" about it. Then you will see twenty pairs of pictures, and check which composition in each pair is more pleasing. You'll be asked to do original sketches to demonstrate your imagination and powers of observation. And in similar ways, your instinctive feeling for mood, form, movement, facial expressions, textures, and so on will be tested.

When you complete the test and mail it back, it will be graded free by a member of the School's staff. If you receive a passing grade (and we must warn you that many don't), or can offer sufficient evidence of art talent, you will then be eligible to enroll. You may choose whichever of our courses is best suited to your goals.

Courses offer personal instruction

These courses were especially designed for talented people who can't leave their families or jobs for art training away from home. The 12 famous artists who started the School over 19 years ago contributed all their lifetime secrets of art technique to what they believe to be the finest art lessons ever created. They took time out from their own busy careers and made thousands of special drawings to demonstrate each point. Then they devised a method of constructive criticism that is as personal as tutoring. Your instructor, who is himself required to be a practicing professional artist, spends up to several hours on just one of your assignments. He actually draws or paints his suggestions for improvement on a separate sheet of paper, and then "talks" to you by letter, dictating a long, friendly message of specific advice and encouragement.

You will receive an interesting brochure about our School and its revolutionary methods along with your free Art Talent Test. If you have ever dreamed of success in art, and wondered if it were possible, why not mail the coupon at left for both the Talent Test and the brochure right now?

Famous Artists School
Studio [illegible]
Westport, Conn. [illegible]

I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists Talent Test and information about your courses.

Mr. / Mrs. / Miss ______ ←Please circle one and print name

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